

Many veins of great promise have been tested and examined within this area in most of which free gold is visible. From the south end to the Atlantic, a fine system of veins prevails, generally parallel to the line of contact of the hornblende schists and altered traps with the granitic gneiss of the Laurentian, trending southward and southeastward to the base of Pipestone Point. These include the Highland, Stuart, Eschweiler, Twin Sisters, Ping Pong, King, East, or Gold Creek, Suttum, #12, and #3, the Hesperia, Ogish, Gold Hill, & D.C. the Windypeg, Consolidated, "Ada" & others, all more or less developed and their value fairly well established. Many of the foregoing auriferous lodes have long been discovered both upon the islands and mainland, the issue of title to which, unfortunately, was long been delayed, thereby literally strangling the goose that lays the golden egg with a veritable gentian. The traps to almost the entire number of the gold mining claims in this district are now owned by the Crown, but it is no stretch of imagination to say that the blundering and tinkering of the Dominion and Provincial Governments may well do the double damage, reducing the density of these immensities, calling themselves "crown" and patented ("patent") rights in this Province and the Fair Dominion, the golden egg and golden age would have dawdled upon us long years ago. But a thing comes to those who wait. The mine men of this district have



and it is quite apparent from their present intelligent and practical activity that they will attain to that future in all its grandeur.

#### CLIMATE AND ELEVATION ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

The climate of a district is materially affected by the position and physical geography of the country to which it belongs; and it is a well-known scientific fact that when the latitude, longitude and height of a place above the level of the sea are given, and its position relative to mountain ranges and the ocean is known, a close approximate estimate may be formed as to its climate. The climate of this particular district is one of extremes. The winters are cold, the temperature sometimes falling as low as 30 degrees below zero of Fahrenheit's thermometer, and in summer rising, not infrequently, to 90 degrees in the shade; the mean temperature of the summer being over 60 degrees. The snow fall in the lake district, as a rule, exceeds that of Ottawa, our immense water stretches apparently exercising a local influence on the humidity of the atmosphere, and, in consequence, on the amount of snow fall. The Lake of the Woods has an elevation of 1063 feet above the level of the sea; the Stewart, Caribou and Eschweiler mines, near Rossland, 1125 feet; Beaver Creek, 1183 feet; Hawk Lake, 1286 feet; Ostersund, 1492 feet, and Rat Portage, 1084 feet. All of these points are immediately upon the main line of the Canadian Pacific railway, and the levels are the result of close instrumental work from the Atlantic to this place, and westward to the Pacific Ocean.

#### WORKMEN, IN VICINITY OF THE TOWN OF RAT PORTAGE.

Without the risk of extending this paper to an inconvenient length, I fear it will not be possible to refer, however briefly, to the glacial denudation and strata so conspicuous throughout the Laurentian, and consequently, for the present at least, must be content with a short pen and ink sketch of the surrounding scenery, contrasting it with that which Governor Sir George Simpson calls the "admirable desert of Lake Superior." There, along the north shore, the scenery expresses all that is noble, terrible and perpetual—a sad magnificence whose only smirch marks danger, where nature apparently never dared to laugh, and the calmest moment might be charged with treachery, if the storms that follow were not callous to destruction. Contrast the frank joyousness of the ever changing and delightful panorama of our own LAKE OF THE WOODS, and one wonders that men can be themselves amid such surroundings. In RAT PORTAGE BAY and islands the scenery is ever lovely. Here the coloring of lake, river and foliage of islands and mainland is gorgeous, and the rock so soft in its contour when compared with the angular and columnar trip, and the melting of the surrounding blue hills and waters so peaceful that nature seems to have come to rest in our own past terrors, and to forget the oceans of fire and the red hot mountains of the first wild ages, when she lashed herself into furies, that had men sentience, they would have been blasted for ever, whose very reminiscences, the Laurentides, seem like the window of burnt ages, half tempered with our modern improvements and refinements. Your labyrinth of islands and deeply indented bays is truly the dreamy meadow of the world's stormy childhood, so soft, so romantic, misty and long half forgotten that it has taken the ripe mellowness of the earth's great geologic age to temper the strong colors of the original picture and to render it, indeed, one of the most perfect and utterly charming landscapes in the world.

**MR. J. J. FALTS.**  
(On the Winnipeg river, almost within sight and sound of the town of Rat Portage.)

Now, with the memory of Hobb's Falls soon to be forgotten, as the writer first saw it, early in the month of February some ten years ago, and passed there after a professional vacation of several hours. Even at this distant date it appears rather a thing belonging to the imagination than to life, whose proper place was in man's fancy and memory. The

## RAT PORTAGE.

"The Saratoga of the West."

walls of the narrow gorge through which pass the seething, foaming waters of the Winnipeg, or "River of Rapids," were of ice, carved into facades of columns of fluted stalactites; the immense overhanging brow of the Fall was of the brightest emerald, illuminated with the penetrating rays from a sunset of fiery red. Below, where all was dark shade, a partially formed ice bridge appeared, whose broken arch swallowed the cataract as might swallows the day, while the curling waves spread beneath like tumbling hair under a bridal veil of mist. Upon this occasion the whole scene was veiled in the magical shadows of evening, while the tamarac and cedar, crowned with clusters of stately pine, formed a dark frame to the glowing picture, and marked their intricate silhouettes in deepest olive against the western sky, now radiant with rose color and violet.

#### TOWN TOPICS.

—The Municipal Council meets this evening.

—We are informed that a skating ring is to be erected just east of the curling rink on Second street.

—Mr. Geo. Barnes, the chief, has called a meeting of the Fire Brigade for next Monday evening in the Fire Hall.

—The Bible Society meeting in the Methodist church was slimly attended. Rev. J. Dyke delivered an excellent address.

—The services in Knox church tomorrow will be conducted by Mr. J. L. Small, of Manitoba College, who will preach both morning and evening.

—Mr. Ephraim Locke died on Tuesday last from lung trouble, in the 42d year of his age. His remains were interred in Union Park Cemetery on Thursday morning.

—Golden Royal Arch Chapter, No. 90, will meet in the Masonic Hall next Tuesday evening for the annual election of officers. A full attendance is particularly requested.

—The work of surveying Tunnel island is still in progress with the object of preparing plans for the construction of a dam required for the utilization of the water power on the west branch of the Winnipeg river. There are rumors of the erection of a washmill flour mill on Tunnel island.

—On Sunday last two French Canadians accomplished an extraordinary and meritorious feat. We have not known their names, though they are worthy of record. One of their comrades at Messrs. Ross, Hall & Brown's lumber camp at Dryberry Lake became very ill, they put him well wrapped on a toboggan, and dragged him in to Rat Portage, a distance of fifty-five miles. They left at five o'clock in the morning and reached Rat Portage in the evening, and made all arrangements for sending him to the St. Boniface hospital on Monday morning.

—The municipal election got its beginning to grow warm and no doubt will boil over ere long. It is now definitely understood that Mr. Arch. Campbell is in the field for the re-election. A number of influential Norman citizens have requested Mr. C. W. Chadwick to become their candidate, and it appears likely that he will consent. Many are desirous that Mr. J. M. Savage should run for the council, and he has not refused. Mr. H. Bickel has also a strong support, and there seems to be an inclination to elect Mr. John Nash to the council in his absence. With Mr. Campbell as reeve and Messrs. Savage, Chadwick, Rideout and Nash as councillors no doubt the interests of the town would be well looked after.

—Mr. Jas. R. Cormack, of Chicago, representing a large amount of capital, has been here about two weeks, and has spent all the time that the weather of this season would permit exploring with local parties. While he does not speak from a thorough observation he is confident that this is a great gold bearing section and that this day is not far distant when some important camps will be an established fact. It is further of the opinion that this is distinctly a poor man's country for mining, owing to the fact that by the application of common sense any ore can be taken from the surface and reduced with at much capital. He also thinks that if the Government paid more attention to the building of highways it would assist development to a great extent.

—Mr. R. Francis left on Tuesday for a month's trip east.

—Mr. Geo. Perry had a valuable colt bred from the blood horse Shimmer, for which he refused \$200 a few weeks ago. It died last week from inflammation.

—Messrs. Barney Duggan and H. Gould had had horses drowned last week in Lauraville's creek. They attempted to cross on the ice but broke through.

—We have had three days' snow storm this week, the biggest ever known here. Snow fell to a depth of over two feet. This appears to be a year of extraordinary things.

—By the Port Frances mail comes the news of the drowning of the twelve year old son of Mr. George, one of the proprietors of the new saw mill at Lockington, on the Rainy river. One day last week the lad went down to the river to get water and not returning evidence of his drowning was found. The body was not recovered.

—Passengers taking advantage of the Canadian Excursions and going via Chicago will be curtailed in the advantages they have had in former years. The train arrangements practically combine passengers to one route each day, and that is dictated by the railway company. It will also disturb the tourist arrangements, as the lines over which service is advertised cannot get any of the business.

—The Ontario Government has decided to issue more permits to cut wood in the vicinity of Rat Portage. Their reason for doing so is that lands have been patented near the town, the owners of which have wood for sale, and as these lands have been purchased from the Government, it is considered unfair to grant permits at the uniform provincial price of 124 cents per cord in competition with those who have paid their money for land and can obtain the same or more per cord as they may have purchased the land for the wood.

—On Monday evening last the Ball family of jubilee singers filled the Methodist church to overflowing with an audience that went to enjoy a treat and were not in the least disappointed. Their singing comprised religious and plantation melodies and was of the highest order. From the smallest aged six to the father and mother they each took distinctive parts in the program, all lighting the audience. They also had a full house on Thursday evening at their illustration of Southey's Cabin and singing of Southern plantation melodies.

—Last evening in the Mock Parliament the Conservatives announced the new Government and their policy. In the absence of the Premier, Hon. J. R. Booth and the Government forces. The following is the new Government: C. W. Chadwick, Premier and President of the Council; J. B. Dunn, Minister of the Interior; J. B. Davies, Minister of Railways and Canals; B. Hall, Minister of Public Works; D. H. Christie, Minister of Customs; F. Hobbs, Minister of Inland Revenue; A. Alexander, Postmaster General; Louis McCall, Minister of Marine; J. M. Savage, Secretary of State; W. A. Wair, Minister of Finance; Shaw, Minister of Justice.

—Mr. Wm. Margach, Crown Timber Inspector, informs us that the winter trail to Rainy river is to be shortened, a colonization road is being constructed from Fotheringham's mill inland, and to meet this a trail is to be cut out from near the mouth of the Grassy river. This work is to be proceeded with at once in order to make the trail available for this winter. While it is presently intended to be a totem pole and a route will be chosen as will make it available for clearing out as a double team road when required. The route heretofore followed has been from Grassy Narrows across the open lake to the mouth of Rainy river, then following the river. This in stormy weather is very bad to cross, but by the new trail there is only a very short distance of open lake and about 22 miles through bush, and which will shorten the distance about twenty-five miles. The Ontario Government has appropriated the money and instructed Mr. Margach to lay out the trail with a branch to Pine river.

**I CURE FITS!**  
For a time I have been suffering from Epilepsy, and have tried many remedies, but have not been able to get any relief. I have since taken your medicine, and I am now perfectly cured. I am very grateful to you for what you have done for me. I am now perfectly cured. I am very grateful to you for what you have done for me.

The last trip of the Port Frances mail was a hard one. It started by the steamer Keanian and got as far as Big Island, but the steamer had to return on account of ice forming. Mr. Marsh had to remain there five days before venturing on the ice. On the return trip bad weather was also encountered, the mail arriving three days late. A start was made yesterday for Port Frances but the carrier had to return to town again, on account of the heavy snow following the rain without freezing leaving the ice in very bad condition. Another start is to be made today.

**A Good Verdict.**  
Sirs,—I have great reason to speak well of your B.B. Bitters. I have taken 6 bottles for myself and family and find that for loss of appetite and weakness I have no equal. It cures sick headache, purifies the blood and will not fail when used. I heartily recommend it to all who want a pure medicine. Mrs. Hook McHenry, Iron, N.B.

**Now Free From Pain.**  
Dear Sir,—I have been troubled with lame back for about 6 months, and thought I would try Haggard's Yellow Oil, which cured me. Am now free from all pains, and recommend Yellow Oil very highly. —FRANK FALTS, WINDSOR, ONT.

**Piles! Piles! Itching Piles.**  
Overcome itching, itching and stinging most at night; worse by scratching. If allowed to continue tumors form, which often bleed and ulcerate, becoming very sore. Sea your doctor about the skin, and bleeding, hemorrhoids, and a most cases removes the tumors. At druggists, or by mail for 50 cents. Dr. Swanwick & Son Philadelphia, Lyman Scott & Co., Montreal. Wholesale Agents.

**CONSUMPTION.**  
I have a positive remedy for this most deadly and fatal disease of man, and of all lung diseases have been cured. Indeed no remedy is so safe as the "CURE FOR CONSUMPTION" which I have discovered. It is a valuable remedy for this disease, and is sold by T. A. SLOOM, M. C., 185 ADELAIDE ST., WEST, TORONTO, ONT.

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**CHAS. A. MOORE.**

## PUBLIC NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the Township of Rat Portage, in the District of Rainyriver, will make an application to the Legislature of the Province of Ontario at the next session thereof for an Act entitled "An Act to incorporate the town of Rat Portage," incorporating the Municipality of the Township of Rat Portage into a Town, under the Municipal laws of the Province of Ontario, with all the powers and privileges therein, and also such other powers and privileges as the Municipal Council may consider necessary and expedient in the interests of the said Township of Rat Portage.

Dated at Rat Portage this 5th day of November, 1891.

**JOHN KERR BRIDON,**  
Clerk of the Municipality of the Township of Rat Portage.

**WALPOLE ROWLAND,**  
Civil and Mining Engineer  
and Topographical Surveyor.

Mineral and other lands examined and reported on, and plans defined.

**CONSULTING MINING ENGINEER.**

Office Address, "ROWLAND" at a Code.

Examiner and Valuator for E. D. C. Paine & Co.

Officers: Port Arthur and Rat Portage.

**J. K. BRYDON,** Issuer of Marriage Licenses, Rat Portage.

**D. L. MACDONALD,** Rat Portage.

**ROBINSON & LANGFORD,** Barristers, Solicitors, Conveyancers and Notaries. Tenny to loan on first class securities. Office, Main street, James Robinson, corner, Rat Portage, B. B.

**W. B. THIBAudeau,** Barrister, Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Ontario, Notary Public, Commissioner, Registrar and Attorney-at-Law of Manitoba. Office—Recorder Registry Office, Rat Portage, Ont.

**CHAS. A. MOORE,** Real Estate and Mining Agent—Mining Lands, Farming Property, Town Lots, Houses to Rent and Farms Collected.

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**C. W. CHADWICK,** General Insurance Agent.

Agent for J. L. Grant & Co., Port Packer.

Valuator for the Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Company.

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